

# Lopa language

**Lopa** consists of a pair of minor Kainji languages of Nigeria. Ethnic Lopa neighbouring the Busa language have shifted to that language.

The two languages are **Rop** (Ollopo) and **Urcibar** (Shuba). Additionally, there is a native name for both dialects as a whole: Rerang, which is unusual in West Kainji languages.<sup>[3]</sup>

Blench (2019) lists **Tsupamini** as a related variety.<sup>[4]</sup>

McGill (2012) also gives the alternate name **Oleran** for Lopa.<sup>[5]</sup>

## Dialects

The name **Lopa** likely comes from the name lópár (Lapar), which refers to both the Rop and the Shuba. Cover terms referring to both Urcibar and Ollopo speakers are [dò rì rǎ̃] (one person), [ò : rì rǎ̃] (many people), and the language [ò : è rǎ̃].<sup>[3]</sup>

- Urcibar** (Shuba) is spoken in the major villages of òt f ébá (Cifamini), tʷ òt f ígí (Gungun Tagwaye), ò sán (Kwanga, different from ò sán above); and the minor villages of à jũ ǎ̃m (Yumu), à : ʔ ɨ ɔ́ (Bakari), ámbú (Ambu shiri). Urcibar is actually more closely related to Shen (Laru) than to Rop.<sup>[3]</sup>
- Ollopo** (Rop) is spoken in the major villages of à r óp (Lopa town), ù jě ímé (Gafara), rʷ á : f é (Raishe); and the minor villages of ʔ ʷ é : r à (Tungan Masu), ò sán (Bakin Ruwa), lópár (Lapar), áñ wá̃ (Ana). Lopa speakers call themselves [dò r óp] (one person), [ò : r óp] (many people), and the language [ò : óp]. They refer to Urcibar speakers as [dòt f íbár] (one person), [ò : t f íbár] (many people), and to their language as [è ɪ t f íbár].<sup>[3]</sup>

## References

1.

Lopa (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/lop/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)

2.

Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Lopa" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/lan/nuoid/id/lopa1238>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.

Lopa	
Rerang	
Native to	Nigeria
Region	Niger State
Native speakers	5,000 <span> </span> (1996) <sup>[1]</sup>
Language family	<div>Niger–Congo <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> Atlantic–Congo<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Benue–Congo<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Kainji<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Kainji Lake?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Lopa</b></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></div>
Dialects	Ollopo <p>Urcibar (Shuba)</p>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	lop
Glottolog	lopa1238 ( <a href="http://glottolog.org/resource/lan/nuoid/id/lopa1238">http://glottolog.org/resource/lan/nuoid/id/lopa1238</a> ) <sup>[2]</sup>

Rerang	
Person	dò rì rǎ̃
People	ò <span> </span> : rì rǎ̃
Language	ò <span> </span> : è rǎ̃ (Olleran)

Ollopo	
Person	dò r óp
People	ò <span> </span> : r óp
Language	ò <span> </span> : óp (Ollopo)

Urcibar (Shuba)	
Person	dòt f íbár
People	ò <span> </span> : t f íbár
Language	è ɪ t f íbár (Urcibar)

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3. Blench, Roger (2012). "The Kainji languages of northwestern and central Nigeria" (<http://www.rogerblench.info/Language/Niger-Congo/BC/Kainji/General/Kainji%20language%20overview.pdf>) (PDF). Cambridge: Kay Williamson Educational Foundation.
  4. Blench, Roger (2019). *An Atlas of Nigerian Languages* (4th ed.). Cambridge: Kay Williamson Educational Foundation.
  5. McGill, Stuart. 2012. The Kainji languages. Ms, School of Oriental and African Studies, London, 30 August 2012.
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